JOURNAL
OF THE

CHEMISTS & DRUGGISTS ASSOCIATION

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Editor:
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THE

Journal of the Chemists and Druggists' Association

MADRAS-3

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SHRI R. GANESAN

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SHRI V. KALIDAS, M.A., LL.B.
„ G. K. SANKER
„ G. CHUNNILAL PORWAL
„ G. SRIRAMULU, M.A.

Vol. I | NOVEMBER 1961 | No. 2

Drugs Conferences

No doubt the periodical Drugs Conferences presided over by the Secretary, Ministry of Health, Government of India, and held in turns at the various States' Capitals are intended to bring the concerned sections of Industry and Trade, and the administrative and technical officers—both Central and State—together so that the important and immediate problems could be discussed, thrashed out and methods devised for implementing the same without much delay. So far, six such conferences have taken place, and the 7th is scheduled to come off in Bombay in—December 1961 or January 1962.

It is disheartening however to observe that the sum total of the results achieved by the previous six conferences is not much to be flattered about either by the industry and trade or by the administration. An unbiased and detatched thinking is bound to give an impression that these conferences are held to 'talk out matters', without the required earnestness and determination to find out solutions and implementing them.

The main sections concerning the Drugs *viz.* manufacturer, distributor, wholesaler and the retailer are not satisfied with the implementation, though they are given opportunities to ventilate their points of views during the conferences. Matters which

Views expressed in the Journal are not necessarily the views of the Association.

—EDITOR.

could be finalised and implemented in six months to one year, take not less than 2 years for the discussion stage and nobody could be certain about implementation.

Of the four main categories mentioned above (*viz.*) Manufacturer, Distributor, Wholesaler, Retailer, the most important are the Manufacturer and Retailer. Officers not fully conversant and equipped with the technical knowledge are entrusted with the inspection of big and small pharmaceutical manufacturing concerns, which have in many cases more qualified and experienced technicians than the inspecting officers. The powers given even to the Drugs Inspectors of two or three years' standing without much of experience in manufacture, are such that they could make even long standing concerns a little nervous by their inspection notes. There can be no two opinions that the manufacturers should produce only ethical and standard products and to achieve this object, supervision and control of the Department is necessary. The problems of Distributors and Wholesalers are not many.

A retail chemist—either big or small—is beset with too many handicaps ; he has to attend to the clerical work which is mounting, maintain the registers, attend to the innumerable details prescribed in the Drugs Act and Rules, all the time having his eyes for the stability of his business, which unfortunately is having unhealthy competition. In spite of the strong representations by the All India and State Associations, for years together about the vexatious procedure, *viz.*, maintenance of registers under Rule 65 (4) etc., no tangible results to give satisfaction to the trade have been achieved so far. The *Ad hoc* Committee appointed as a result of the decision at the Vth Drugs Conference held in Lucknow in November 1959 to go into the question of the maintenance of registers has submitted its report in May—June this year (1961), and the finality of this report may perhaps be known only in the Seventh Drugs Conference to be held in 1962.

It is common knowledge that a retail chemist and druggist in India is the victim of a number of taxes. He has to pay Sales Tax, Income Tax, take out a number of licences from the Departments of Drugs, Excise, Police etc. It is no exaggeration to say that this trade is the only one which is being put to these handicaps, with the result it is becoming more and more difficult for small retail chemists to continue their trade with profit.

Besides the difficulties enumerated above, the retail chemist has to contend against wholesalers and distributors who run retail shops directly or indirectly and do not observe any ethical standards in retail selling prices of medicines. The advantages they get by being wholesalers and distributors, are being utilised to undersell with an idea to eliminate the retailers by stages. The Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee's Report has dealt with this aspect at length and it is distressing that the Governments—both Central and State are only silent observers. Unless the Government takes the lead in bringing all the sections together, and introduces suitable measures for the implementation of the recommendations of the Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee, it is very doubtful whether small retailers will be able to continue in the trade long.

The Central Ministry of Health which has drafted the Drugs Act and Rules has to interest itself in assessing the value and the benefits of these periodical Drugs Conferences.

It appears that it will also be necessary to give a directive that subjects discussed at the conference should not be indefinitely adjourned from one conference to another and decisions taken must be implemented within a reasonable time limit.

Due to the phenomenal growth of big pharmaceutical concerns during the Second Five Year Plan with foreign collaboration and also the tremendous progress of the Hindustan Antibiotics at Pimpri the import of drugs is on the decrease and ere long there might be no need for import of any of the basic drugs. The four huge concerns under public sector which are expected to go into production in 2 or 3 years will permanently solve the requirements of manufacturers and consumers as well.

The manufacturers being a small number are in a position to represent their case through their Association. The retailers, though very large in number, cannot afford to antagonise either the manufacturer or the distributor or the wholesaler as his trade is dependent on the good will of the above three.

It is true that the All India and the State Associations are doing their best for the retailer. Unless the Government also gives a helping hand in the matter the desired results will be difficult to achieve.

It is time the Ministry of Health notes the slow progress and poor results achieved by the six Drugs Conferences that have been held so far. Now that there is about a month for the 7th Drugs Conference to begin, may we suggest to the Ministry of Health to fix up the Agenda in such a manner that the incomplete items that were considered during the previous conferences are first taken up for consideration and discussed either to finalise the same or to drop them for over. Some of the items that have been considered again and again from the Second Drugs Conference onward have not been finally decided one way or the other as indicated supra. We can only hope that at least from the next 'conference' a more business-like and practical attitude will be taken both by the Ministry and by the non-official representatives with the sole endeavour of removing practical difficulties in the way of progress and help the Industry and Trade to serve the people and country better, more efficiently and economically too, by manufacturing and supplying only ethical and quality products at fair prices

It is time that the retailers also realise that they should adopt a uniform price policy and sell only genuine medicines. They shall not resort to unethical practices like selling scarce and life-saving medicines at unfair prices.

The dealers should further realise that the only healthy and useful policy is to satisfy the customers by supplying medicines at fair prices, giving them courteous treatment, attending to them promptly, and earning their goodwill. This is the sure and permanent method of stabilising trade.

ERRATA

On page 20 of the Association Journal, Vol. I No. 1, October, 1961, first column line 30, please read 2. C° and 15. C° instead of 20. C° and 15. C°.

—EDITOR.

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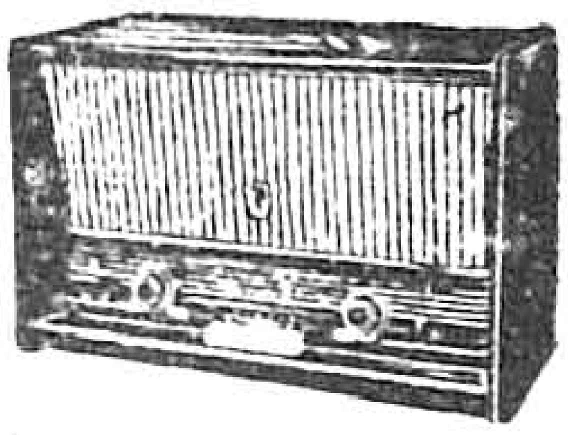

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A NEW WORLD IN SOUND

Indian Pharmaceuticals

BY

Shri G. K. SANKER,

President, Chemists & Druggists' Association, Madras.

The days have become a legend when the Indians had to depend on imported medicines to wage their fight against diseases. Today, India is reckoned as one of the few countries in Asia as medically advanced; its role in the search for new remedies against diseases cannot also be minimised. India's pharmaceutical industry has made an especially conspicuous development after the war.

Antibiotics, now king of medicines, have been introduced in India as well as modern production techniques and machines. The use of preventive medicine, vitamins and hormones, for example, has spread widely among Indian families. Before the world war II, India depended on imports chiefly from England and Germany even for the supply of such basic medicines as aspirin, antipyrin etc. When this supply was cut off during the war, the situation instead of plunging into a state of stagnation, aggravated ambitious industrialization, as the country suffered no war damage. From this experience India strove to attain self-sufficiency in medical supplies which we have achieved today to a great extent. During the postwar period pharmaceutical production increased year after year and even foreign firms which originally demurred had set-up plants in India and have been producing a wide variety of medicines including antibiotics, biological preparations, vitamins, hormones and others. Today, Indian products cover almost all the items necessary for up-to-date medical treatment and preventive medicine.

It is said that the volume of consumption of medicine is an index of the living standards of a nation. There is no doubt that the drug consumption in India has shown a remarkable increase after the war; but it is still far below that of many advanced countries. In recent years, ordinary people are buying more medicines than hospitals, upsetting the traditional ratio of 50 : 50.

It is a matter of regret, however, that India generally speaking, has no distinguished record in the history of pharmaceutical discoveries. Many new drugs have been discovered in the West and put into commercial production, including salvarasan, sulfamine, penicillin, streptomycin, chloramphenical etc. These drugs have been a great blessing to mankind and demonstrate the revolutionary advance in medical treatment achieved today. Though not so dramatic as these wonder-drugs, we can list some examples of medicines discovered by Indian doctors. The industrial use of 'Aureomycin-Chlortetracycline' the first two broad spectrum antibiotics - was first discovered by late Dr. Yellapragada Subba Row, when installing Lederle, about whom I will write an article in the next issue. He enjoys a honoured place in the factory even today. We need not necessarily go into the past to seek honours. There are recent events of Indian doctors winning international renown.

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The Delight and Plight of a Chemist and Druggist

BY

Shri G. SRIRAMULU, M.A.

The delight of a Chemist and Druggist knows no bounds at the sight of a satisfied face of a customer to his own answer 'yes', when the customer comes to him running and asks him in anxiety 'Have you got this medicine...?". This is a very common experience.

Also is the common experience that at the year end when he takes stock of his merchandise, his plight becomes pitiable for he would be finding many items on his shelves, which are 'dead', which are 'diseased', which are 'mutilated', and which are 'no more wanted'. What a waste? And what does he get, when he accounts for all these?

And then, what a slight is done to him when he is restrained at every step of his business-course to conform to every detail of the rules governing his business. And the rules are umpteen and the authorities governing are many.

So this is the picture of liabilities and assets of a Chemist and Druggist.

His asset is the joy of being useful in supplying the needs of the people in want. His liability is a store of worry caused by the unsaleable stocks and the unfollowed rules. In either case it is not that he did not sell his stocks, or he did not follow the rules. He wants to sell whatever he buys and he wishes to abide by all laws. But what all he buys does not sell, and all the rules are not comprehensible and practical. This is a sad plight of a Chemist and Druggist and he seeks therefore co-operation from two quarters-one, from manufacturers and two, from the Government. It is a sort of sympathy he is in want, he expects of both.

The manufacturer must always keep in touch with the dealer and even though the dealer pays for the goods he sold and the transaction in a way is over, the manufacturer must still consider himself responsible for the sale of those goods. If they don't sell, he must take back. If they deteriorate in quality, he must take back. If it is a breakage or discolouration or out-dated, he must take back. The manufacturer should regard it as a moral responsibility on his part. I do not know how many will agree with me. It lies in the way one looks as it. Any way it is the correct procedure to be adopted for healthy development of trade.

All the worse the situation that is becoming very common now. We witness that yesterday's medicine is forgotton today and we are afraid what is going to happen to to-day's medicines. Then what is the state of these not out-dated, but out-of date, obsolete products. This is not Gold or Silver or Iron where the forms can be changed and put on shelves for sale again. Consideration of the manufacturer in this respect is so much wanted.

In the same manner the Chemist and Druggist wants sympathy from the authorities. It is not discussed whether the rules are required, what rules are not justified, what rules may be altered and like that.

Certainly it is obligatory on the part of the dealer to conform to the rules, framed in the common interest. Whatever, it is a different topic. What are the rules is one thing and how they are imposed is another thing. I am concerned here with the second.

First, the rules must be made understandable. And the 'rulers' must take into account the existing conditions and be accommodative in enforcing the rules. The spirit of tolerance is required everywhere whenever the Government wish to bring in a reform. We are not working at a revolution. We must give time for things to evolve themselves. Surely we will have our ideal achieved if not today, not even tomorrow, but certainly day after tomorrow. There, the authorities need to be definitely sympathetic and not delude themselves into thinking in a very ideal fashion. There the mistake should not be committed. We cannot have the change overnight. So considering both sides, it must be a slow and harmonious process of working. Let not the dealer work as though he has no obligations to certain rules and conduct. Let him make all attempts to understand and put into working those rules. And let the authorities be considerate to all the factors and regard themselves as not police to catch a thief, but a friend to guide.

So goes the Chemist's trade with two bowls in two hands, one requesting the charity of the manufacturers, and the other requesting the co-operation of the authorities, while the trader himself is supposed to be a valuable medium in the society to supply a valuable demand. Yes, he does not need to go with these bowls seeking charity and co-operation only if he is unscrupulous. Consideration on the part of both the manufacturer and the authorities is necessary as long as the dealer is conscientious and well intentioned.

—✶—

PRICES OF DRUGS

Enquiry into the Cost structure of manufactured drugs with a view to bring down the prices of medicines, is one of the important recommendations of the Health Survey Committee appointed under the Chairmanship of Dr. A. Lakshmanaswamy Mudaliar, which recently submitted its report to the Government of India.

*　　　　*　　　　*

Can it be hoped that this recommendation will be implemented soon by the Government so that the recommendations of the Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee to enforce fair margins of profit to dealers and *uniform 'Consumers' prices* would become possible.

SYNTHETIC DRUGS FACTORY

The preliminary work in connection with the setting up of a 'Synthetic Drugs Factory' at Sanatnagar, Andhra Pradesh with Soviet assistance is said to be fast progressing and it is expected that actual construction work will start soon and production of Drugs may commence from 1964.

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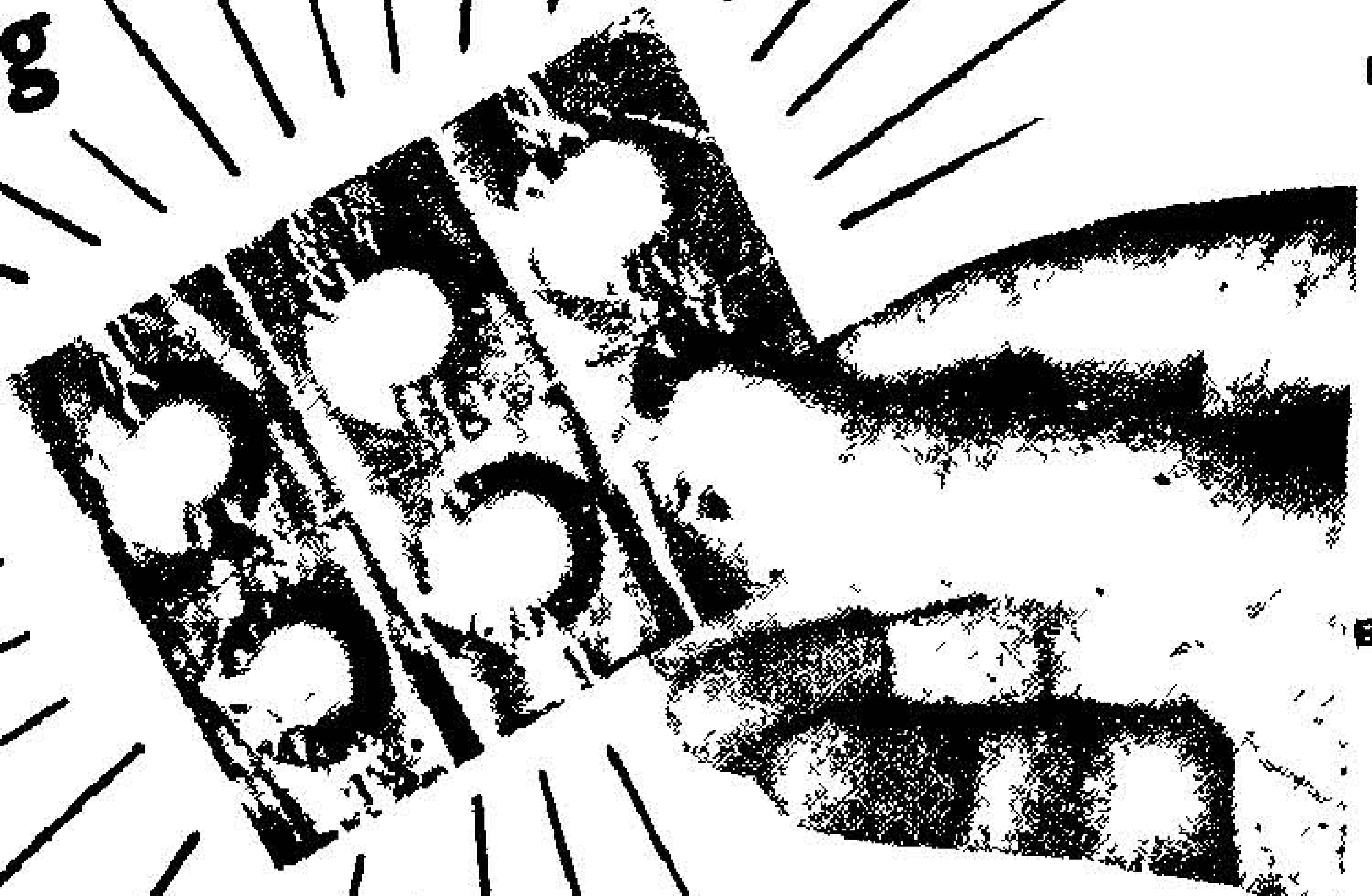

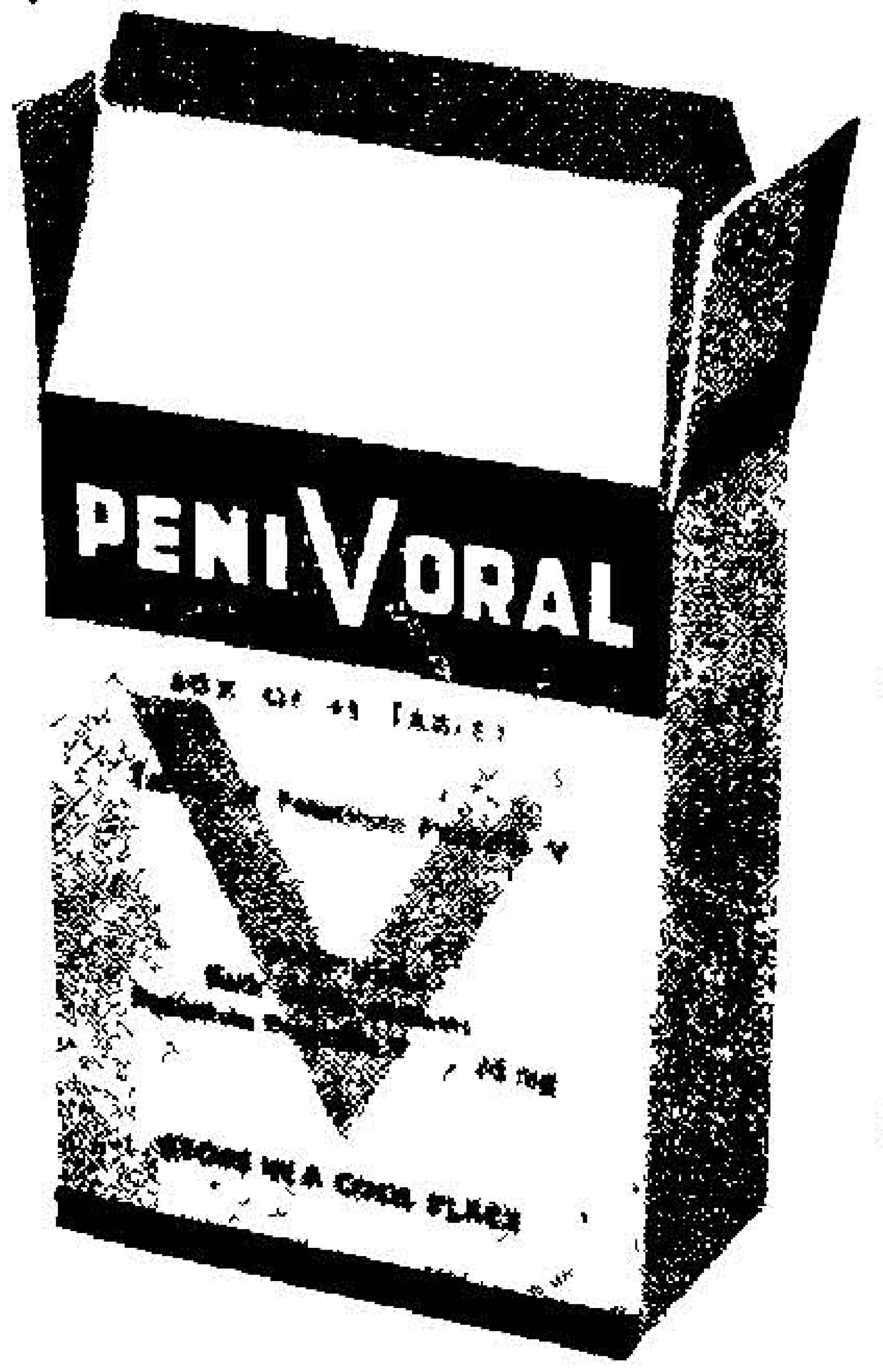

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Association News

THE CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS' ASSOCIATION, MADRAS

The 32nd Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Association premises No. 1, Memorial Hall Street, Madras-3 at 3 p.m. on Saturday the 21st October, 1961.

The President Shri R. Ganesan, presided. After adoption of the 32nd Annual Report and the Audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1960, the undernoted Officers and Committee members were declared elected unanimously in pursuance of the Report of the Returning Officers.

President

Shri G. K. Sanker, M/s. J. Balabhai & Co., N. S. C. Bose Road, Madras-1.

Vice Presidents (Two)

Shri C. L. Metha, J.P., M/s. H. Chandanmal & Co., Nyniappa Naick St., Madras-3.
„ P. S. Bashyam, M/s. P. S. Bashyam & Co., 114, Shenoy Nagar, Madras-30.

General Secretary

Shri G. Sriramulu, M.A., M/s. G. V. K. C. & Co., Nyniappa Naick Street, Madras-3.

Secretary

Shri A. N. Rajamani, M/s. Nungambakkam Drug Stores, Ranganatham Chetty Road, Madras-34.

Treasurer

Shri C. A. Vasudevan, J.P., M/s. A. Welldon & Co., 174, Broadway, Madras-1.

Committee Members

Shri Chunnilal Porwal, G., M/s. Porwal & Sons, Nyniappa Naick St., Madras-3.
„ Dakshinamurthy, P., M/s. Raka Corporation (P) Ltd., Madras-1.
„ Damodaran, C. D., J.P., M/s. C. A. Doraswamy Mudaliar & Sons Madras-1.
„ Davey, K. G., M/s. Standard Drugs & Chemicals Co., Nyniappa Naick St., Madras-3.
„ Jagadeesan, K., M/s. Mount Pharmacy, 2/4, Mount Road, Madras-2.
„ Narinder Singh, S., M/s. Ranbaxy & Co., (P) Ltd., Madras-1.
„ Palaniappan, R. M., M/s. R. R. Pharmacy, 2-A, Purasawalkam High Road, Madras-7
„ Ramachandra, C. R., M/s. R. L. Gowder & Co., Madras-1.
„ Ramniklal Pandya, S., M/s. Amarchand Sobachand, Madras-3.
„ Ranga Bashyam, P., M/s. Padma & Co., Madras-8.
„ Subburathnam, P. S., M/s. S. Vaidya & Co., Madras-1.
„ Varadharajan, M. C., M/s. Rajan Drug Stores, Madras-3.

Immediately after, Shri R. Ganesan, the outgoing President led the newly elected President Shri G. K. Śanker to the Chair, and Shri G. Chunnilal Porwal, the out-going General Secretary garlanded both the out-going and in-coming Presidents amidst cheers.

Shri R. Ganesan then briefly thanked the members for the confidence they had reposed in him by electing him as President for two years consecutively and for the unstinted co-operation extended to him during his entire term of office. He wished the new President, Officers and the Committee God-speed in building up the strength, popularity and utility of the Association still further. He also gave a piece of advice and counsel about the difficult tasks lying ahead and the several problems that the Association might have to face in the coming years and expressed his conviction that the new President, Officers and the Committee members would be able to meet any challenge successfully and carry out their responsibilities more efficiently and render much better service to the members and the Trade as a whole.

Shri G. K. Sanker, the new President thanked the members for recognising his erstwhile services and unanimously electing him as their President and said that "the Association is doing tremendous service not only to the trade and profession but also indirectly serving the Government as well."

He added that although "the less spectacular but more constructive role of the Association as the watch-dog of the rights, privileges and general interests of Chemists may have been lost sight of by some, the Association's job today is and will continue to be to point out to Government the imperfections if any in the various enactments that are being assessed on the Trade day after day mostly because of the changing conditions and patterns of our Society and the growing needs of the country". "It requires", he emphasised "great and untiring vigilance on our part and we will have to perform this task continuously and with courage."

He also paid a warm tribute to Shri R. Ganesan the retiring President for his untiring zeal and enthusiasm in building up the unity, strength and solidarity of the members and raising the prestige, power, position and utility of the Association very much, especially by ushering in the publication of the Association Journal. He added that the credit for the present united strength of the Association mainly goes to Shri Ganesan and that he would certainly endeavour to keep up this tradition high.

Referring to the trade in general he said that "village trade development will be fruitful as village development is receiving great attention in our five year plans and consequently villages have become centres of great economic activity". Where there is economic activity he added "there is bound to be a rise in the standards of living, and the Chemist had his part to play in the general development."

Shri G. Sriramulu, the newly elected General Secretary also expressed his thanks to the members for electing him as the General Secretary and assured them that he would endeavour to justify the confidence reposed in him.

M/s. M. K. Dandekar & Co., were appointed as auditors.

Shri J. T. Thadhani made a suggestion that a general meeting of the members may be held at least once in six months, so that the members may have more than one opportunity in a year to meet and discuss matters of common interest. The President Sri G. K. Sanker said that it was not

possible to have business meetings except as stipulated under the rules. All General meetings other than the Annual General Meeting can be only Special or Extraordinary General Meetings convened for the purpose of discussing specific subjects to be notified. But, he added it would be quite possible to arrange 'social get-together' meets whenever required and so he assured the meeting that he would, during his term of office, definitely arrange to have such get-together 'socials' at least once in six months as desired by Mr. Thadhani.

The following resolution moved by Mr. J. T. Thadhani and seconded by Mr. C. L. Mehta was passed unanimously accompanied by loud cheering.

"This meeting of the General Body of the Association places on record its deep appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the out-going President Shri R. Ganesan and while thanking him sincerely for all what he has done to the Association wishes him the best of health, happiness and long life."

Shri C. K. Sanker, the President, then announced that Messrs. A. Somasundaram of M/s. S. T. Soundraraja Pillai & Son, Nagapattinam, and K. N. Hariharan of M/s. Gomathy Medical Stores, Ambasamudram, have been nominated to the Committee, to represent mofussil interests.

The members were treated to light refreshments and tea by the new President.

With a vote of thanks proposed by Shri G. Sriramulu, the meeting came to a close at 5-30 p.m.

Delhi State Chemists Association

One of the important matters considered at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Delhi State Chemists Association held on 3rd October 1961, was the Report of the Retail Sub-Committee, which was approved with the exception of one or two items.

Some of the interesting suggestions of the Retail Sub-Committee approved by the Delhi State Chemists Association are summarised below :—

(1) To organise informal social-get-together meets of retail and dispensing Chemists on Zonal basis to promote better relations among themselves.

(2) To contact distributing and wholesale houses by turns to discuss and remove mutual difficulties.

(3) To suggest to distributing and wholesale houses to arrange for informal gatherings to which the retail and dispensing Chemists may be invited so as to bring about a closer and better understanding between all.

Some suggestions to be pressed with Manufacturers and Distributors

(4) Putting up consumers' prices on the labels and cartons.

(5) Printing of Doctors' prices in the Price List.

(6) Taking back or exchanging date—expired goods.

(7) Taking back of goods left unsold due to lack of publicity and propaganda.

We are glad to announce the receipt of the gift of a 'Steel Rack' to the Association by Shri R. Ganesan, Managing Director, M/s. Mount Mettur Pharmaceuticals Private Ltd., Madras-28.

The Chemists & Druggists Association, Madras.

Bulletin October 1961 Excerpts. Some of the items in respect of which Quotas for Established Importers have been reduced or banned during October 1961—March 1962 Period.

S. No	S. No and Part of the I. T C. Schedule	DESCRIPTION	Apr., Sept. 1961	Import Policy October 1961 March 1962
63	87, 109/IV	(i) Oxytetracycline ..	66·2/3%	40%
,,	,,	(ii) Tetracycline .	50%	20%
,,	,,	(iii) Acid Salicylic excluding preparations thereof .	25%	20%
,,	,,	(iv) Argenti Proteinum and Argenti Proteinumite ..	20%	10%
,,	,,	(v) Caffeine and its salts ...	25%	20%
,,	,,	(vi) Methyl Salicylate excluding preparations thereof ..	10%	5%
,,	,,	(vii) Sera, Vaccines etc. ..	100%	40%
,,	,,	(viii) Glycerophosphates excluding preparations thereof	Licensed under the consolidated quota for Drugs and Medicines (27·1/2%)	50% (on the basis of past imports of this item.
64	87, 109/IV	Drugs and Medicines n. o s	27.1/2%	25%
96	7/V	Gums, Resins and Lac, all sorts, not otherwise specified, excluding olibanum and frankkincense ..	10%	7 1/2%
97	12(a)/V	Farinaceous and patent foods, canned or bottled, excluding milk foods for infants etc ..	7·1/2%	5%
98	17(b)/V	Liquid paraffin ...	20%	15%
99	22, 31/V	Acid Citric ...	20%	15%
100	,,	Sodium bicarbonate .	5%	2.1/2%
102	,,	Butyl Acetate ..	25%	Nil
103	,,	Butyl Alcohol ...	25%	Nil
104	,,	Potassium Parmanganate ..	50%	25%
105	,,	Sodium Silico-flouride ..	75%	50%

Poisons Act and the Revised Schedule of Poisons

The revised schedule of Poisons contains Insecticides, Rodenticides and Fungicides also with the result that small dealers in ordinary Insecticides etc. have to take out a licence. Soon, many of the small dealers got into trouble. When this was brought to the notice of the Association, a communication was addressed to the Commissioner of Police which is reproduced below :

Ref. No. EX/522/61. Date: 26th Oct. '61

The Commissioner of Police,
Egmore, Madras-8.

Sir,

It has been brought to the notice of the Association that consequent on the inclusion of Insecticides, Rodenticides and Fungicides in the list of poisons, considerable difficulties are experienced by a large number of small dealers.

Some of the dealers in 'Insecticides' are not even chemists and they may not also possess a licence under Poisons Act. No doubt, these people should be instructed to obtain the necessary licences immediately and given proper guidance at least at the first instance instead of straightway prosecuting them. For the possession of a few packets of some preparations of insecticides which had for a long time been stocked and sold by merchants without any licence, if a small dealer is prosecuted, it will be a hardship.

For one thing, most of these small dealers are not fully conversant with the laws relating to the possession and sale of such poisonous drugs. Although ignorance of law may not be an excuse and cannot save one from the penalties for non-observance of any law, it will decidedly be better if proper steps are taken by the authorities to give wide publicity to the several poisonous preparations which come under the category of 'insecticides' etc., the restrictions imposed under the Poisons Act and Rules for dealing in such preparations and the consequences and punishment to be faced, for non-compliance of these legal obligations etc. This may be done by distribution of pamphlets, notices, and also by other means of propaganda as the Radio.

In this connection, it has to be pointed out that even copies of the Poisons Act 1919 and the rules *brought up-to-date* i.e. including the revised schedule of poisons are not available in the Government Press till now although the revised schedule has been enforced since 1960. Even today, copies of the Poisons Act 1919 and Rules modified upto 1st May 1956 only, are available. These do not contain the *revised schedule of Poisons.*

So, it is very difficult even for Trade organisations like the Madras Chemists and Druggists' Association to circulate correct and authentic copies of the schedule to members and other dealers.

Except the fact that the licensing authority under the Poisons Act and Rules is the Commissioner of Police for the City of Madras and the various District Magistrates for the districts concerned, even the Chemists and other dealers do not know as to whom they have to approach for clarification of doubts or for resolving their difficulties, if any.

All these particulars should be widely made known to the dealers and to the public as well before prosecutions and other rigorous measures are taken against persons for contravention of the provisions of the Poisons Act and Rules.

I would therefore request you to give this matter your kind and earnest consideration and take suitable measures. I can assure you that the Chemists and Druggists Association, Madras, would fully co-operate with you in all such measures that might be taken by you to educate the trade and the public about the various implications of the Poisons Act and Rules, licensing etc. so as to ensure the common good of the people.

Yours faithfully,

G. K. Sanker,
President.

* * *

Continuing up the above communication the President of the Association Shri G. K. Sanker met and discussed the matter with the Commissioner of Police on 27-10-'61 and latter on 9-11-1961, he met the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Law and Order. The results of the discussions are recorded in the following words by the President himself.

I have seen Mr. Arul, acting Commissioner of Police, who also had with him the Dy. Commissioner of Police, Law and Crime. Mr. Arul fully agreed that it will be too cruel to prosecute cases under Poisons Act, dealers possessing insecticides. He has promised to help. He has also instructed the D. C. of Police, Law and Crime to help me in seeing that such cases are not taken to court. I will be seeing the D. C. of Police, Law and Crime for regularising this matter and this may be circulated.

G. K. Sanker,
27-10-'61. *President.*

I had a discussion with Mr. Krishna Raj, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Law and Order and he has promised that no prosecution will be launched without consulting the Association. He has also instructed the Inspector in charge of licences for possession of poisons accordingly.

G. K. Sanker,
9-11-'61. *President.*

Poisons' Licences

Applications for renewal of licences submitted before 30th November, 1961, should be affixed with a court fee stamp of Re. 1-50 np. Applications submitted after that date and before 31st December, 1961, should be affixed with a court fee stamp of Rs. 3-00 np.

In any case, no application submitted *after 31st December 1961* will be accepted.

Questions and Answers

Questions from licensed Chemists and Druggists relating to the Drugs Act and Rules, Pharmacy Act and Rules and other legislative measures pertaining to the Drug Trade and Industry and for clarifications in regard to any procedural or other allied matters will be answered as far as practicable in this column subject to the following conditions Such questions must be neatly typed on one side of the paper and must have the full name and address of the sender. Each question must relate to a specific subject and should not be mixed up with other issues. The Editor reserves the right to accept and answer any such question or reject the same without assigning any reasons. No correspondence on this subject will also be entertained.

Q. Does mere change of premises within the same town or city necessitate a fresh Drugs licence ?

A. Yes. A change either in the premises or in the name of the licensee necessitates a fresh application for a fresh licence and the payment of the regular fees.

Chemists' Forum

Any useful information, views and suggestions relating to the Drugs Trade and calculated to promote the interests of the trade and those engaged in it will be published in this column. All matter for publication in this column shall be neatly typed on one side of the paper only and addressed to the Editor and *must contain* the name and full address of the sender. Any letter not published will not be returned to the sender unless it is specially requested so and a self-addressed and stamped envelope is also sent along with it. The Editor's decision in regard to publication or otherwise shall be final.

M. G. S. T. Act, 1959, Sales Tax on Drugs and Medicines

Some members of the Association have suggested that the present system of 2 p.c. multipoint tax on Drugs and Medicines involves a laborious task on the part of dealers and at the same time it is not also beneficial to the Consumer, as the article passes several stages before reaching his hands.

As such, they are of the view that this may be converted into a single point levy of any thing between 4 to 6 p.c. at the source.

All members and other Chemists & Druggists are welcome to offer their views and suggestions in regard to this matter.

Madras Chemists and Druggists Association.

Grams : "DRUGS" Madras Phone : 32651

With best compliments from

RAJAN DRUG STORES

CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS

No. 155, NYNEAPPA NAICK STREET

P. T., MADRAS-3

A Survey of Pharmacy Education in Madras State

BY

Sri K. S. SRINIVASA VARADAN, M.A., M.SC., A.R.I.C.,

Professor of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Madras Medical College, Madras.

Part II

First Part Appeared in October 1961 Number.

As the candidates trained according to the Regulations of the Pharmacy Council of India are to be mostly employed in retail 'Pharmacy', the Pharmacy Council of India has drawn up a code of ethics for the registered Pharmacists. The same was adopted by the Madras State Pharmacy Council and copies of the same have been sent to all registered Pharmacists. Every candidate, who is registered for the first time as a Pharmacist, is being supplied with a copy of the same.

Further, the Pharmacy Council of India has also drawn up a model scheme giving necessary details of the building, equipment and teaching staff required for establishing a diploma in Pharmacy Course. It gives approximately the capital outlay required and the amounts required for recurring and non-recurring expenses. It is hoped that the Planning authorities will recommend the same to the Government of India so that the latter may give financial aid to any institution offering to start the course on the basis of the above scheme. A Central Institute of Pharmacy is also a necessity and it is hoped that at least the Third Five Year Plan of the Central Government will fulfil this long-felt and essential need so that the quality of the teaching of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical research can make considerable progress.

Turning to the employment of the students who undergo the course of diploma in Pharmacy they are the persons with the minium registrable qualification and they will mostly take to retail Pharmacy. But, in view of the type of training undergone by them, they will also be highly useful as assistants in the manufacturing section and in the Hospital Pharmacies which undertake to prepare a number of common injections and transfusion fluids to the inpatients of the hospital in addition to the dispensing of drugs. This kind of opening will provide the necessary opportunities for promotion to this category of persons, as dispensing Pharmacy in hospitals does not eventually lead to posts with higher emoluments. Further, the brighter among these candidates can be selected to undergo the degree course in pharmacy if they can afford financially. Many Universities have adopted the diploma course in Pharmacy recognised by the Pharmacy Council of India as an alternative qualification for admission to the degree course. There are some institutions which conduct both the degree and diploma courses and all the diploma holders from the institution are admitted to the degree courses if they so desire. Again, though all the institutions which have been approved for running the diploma courses in pharmacy are following the same pattern of education, the training offered in the

State of East Punjab alone, has the additional feature of imparting training for 'dressers' in addition to the diploma course. These persons can be employed as 'dispensers' and also as assistants to doctors to administer injections and other allied simpler medical aids under the supervision of the physician and surgeon. This kind of provision adds substantially to the amount of medical relief available to the people in the state and also to increase the economic prospects of the diploma-holders as well. As there is considerable dearth of trained medical personnel in the scientific system, this kind of training satisfies a real want especially when the talk of a shorter duration of training medical personnel is in the air. This experiment of the E. Punjab State is worth considering in evolving a pattern of training which can give the maximum benefit in the minimum time.

From the diploma course in Pharmacy to the degree course in Pharmacy is a natural step and almost all the States are having training centres for the degree course in pharmacy. The degree holders are required in the manufacturing pharmacy in large numbers Madras was the second State to launch the scheme for training graduates in Pharmacy and the degree course which was one of 2 years' duration was inaugurated in the Madras Medical College in the year 1939. As the degree holders are required for the manufacturing wing, the question naturally arises, how the Pharmaceutical industry was being carried on in the State before the inauguration of the degree course in Pharmacy. In the first place, the pharmaceutical industry was not in a highly developed condition prior to 1939. Madras State can claim the privilege of having started the first pharmaceutical industry in India as the Littles Oriental Balm Co., was established as early as 1885. Yet, the Industry did not make much headway due to a variety of factors. But still, Madras State has the credit of having run a diploma course in Pharmacy called the 'Chemists and Druggists' course extending to a period of two and a half years. The candidates trained in this course were mainly employed in the Pharmaceutical industry in those days. Some of them occupied the supervisory posts in retail pharmacies of reputed firms which had in those days a large volume of professional service. This course should not be confused with the present diploma course conducted according to the regulation of the Pharmacy Council.

This course was divided into two parts. The first part was of a duration of a year and a half. As the candidates admitted to the course were only matriculates, they were trained in the first part in Chemistry and Botany only, so that they can come up to the standards of the old Intermediate course in these two subjects. At the end, they were examined in these two subjects and thus a foundation was laid for the future development of the knowledge of pharmaceutical chemistry of a good order. The examination was conducted by the Commissioner for the Government Examinations for some time and later the examination was conducted by the Head of the Medical Department with the help of a Board of Examiners. The examination was known as the 'Chemists and Druggists' Examination—Part I—Lower Chemistry and Botany.

The candidates after passing the first examination at the end of the first 1½ years were asked to undergo an apprenticeship in a recognised retail pharmacy so that they can have a first hand knowledge of retail pharmacy both on the dispensing and the sales' sides. The whole of the second year course was devoted to a study of chemistry and Materia Medica and the theoretical side was accompanied by intensive practical work. They were trained to do not only the

analysis of drugs but also to do small scale preparations of galenicals with the result that they could fill the roles of the manufacturing chemists in the Pharmaceutical factories of those days. An extent of the practical training given, can be gauged by the fact that they had to take examination in Chemistry for 3 consecutive days, each of 6 hours' duration. They were trained to do analysis of all types of pharmaceutical preparations. The examination was known as the Chemists and Druggists Diploma 2nd year—Higher Chemistry and Materia Medica. As in the case of the first year examination, the Commissioner for Government Examinations conducted the examination in the first instance and later it was handed over to the Head of the Medical Department aided by a Board of Examiners. The training in Materia Medica was also thorough. In addition to dispensing, they were trained to prepare all the official preparations. The official preparations were mainly galenicals and ointments in those days. But, they were given a thorough knowledge of the preparation of these and they had adequate knowledge of the mode of action of drugs. In short, the modern subjects of general 'Pharmacy,' 'Dispensing Pharmacy,' and Pharmacology were combined with a little of Pharmacognosy also, in Materia Medica.

As the candidates after this training could adequately manage the 'retail pharmacy' and 'manufacturing pharmacy,' this course enjoyed a lot of popularity in the Pharmaceutical field and all the leading Chemists and Druggists sent candidates to be trained in this course. Some of the old students of this course are still being employed as Manufacturing chemists. Further, students with the basic qualification of Intermediate in Arts and Science and Bachelor of Arts also, took to this training as this opened the prospects for a good professional service which was in great demand.

The Government of Madras also deputed the certificate holders working in the Government hospitals to undergo this training course, so that they could be entrusted with higher responsibilities and posted as chief Pharmacists in the bigger hospitals.

The candidates trained in this course then were called the members of the Pharmaceutical Society of India and they could use the abbreviation M.P.S. After the introduction of the degree course in Pharmacy, this training lost its importance, as the manufacturers naturally began to prefer the degree holders to these diploma holders.

An intermediate group of *professionally* trained persons between the certificate holders in Pharmacy required in hospitals and retail pharmacy, and degree holders in pharmacy required in the industry on the manufacturing side, was found to be losing importance with the result that the strength began to decline and the course was abolished eventually in 1955, simultaneously with the abolition of the certificate course in Pharmacy. Thus, at present, only two kinds of training are available, *viz.* the new diploma course and the degree course excluding, of course, the post-graduate course. But it must not be overlooked that this course was very useful in those days and supplied adequately professionally qualified personnel for retail pharmacy, 'hospital pharmacy' and 'manufacturing pharmacy', to fill up posts of responsibility till it was superseded by the degree course in pharmacy.

(To be continued)

Memorandum of Points for Discussion

(Submitted to the Drugs Controller by the Chemists & Druggists Association, Madras).

(Proposed to be held at Bombay during last week of December 1961 or first week of January, 1962.)

1. **Rule 65 (15) C of the Drugs Rules.**—Removal of the bottleneck in registering persons qualified by the Director of Medical Services under rule 65 (15) C as competent persons to be in charge of Pharmacies conducted under the Drugs Rules, as Pharmacists under the provisions of the Pharmacy Act 1948 and the Pharmacy (Amendment) Act 1959 as well.

Previous action.—The Chairman said at the VIth Drugs Conference that the Pharmacy Council of India would consult the State Pharmacy Councils in this question and do the needful.

It is not known till now what action has been taken by the Pharmacy Council of India in this direction.

The Registrar, Pharmacy Council, Madras, who was addressed in the matter has informed in his letter dated 17-6-'61, that the Government of Madras had addressed the Government of India, in the matter and the latter's reply is awaited.

Suggestions.—This is a question which had been repeatedly discussed in all the previous Drugs Conferences since 1957-58. It is still kept in a nebulous state without a decision and consequently several hundreds of persons who had long ago been certified by the Director of Medical Services, Madras as competent to be in charge of Pharmacies run by Chemists under the retail licences Nos. 20 and 21 as per Drug Rules are unable to get themselves *registered* as Pharmacists under the provisions of the Pharmacy Act. An immediate decision in the matter is imperative.

So long as rule 65 (15)C is in the Drugs Rules, it is incumbent that persons qualified under this rule must definitely be registered as Pharmacists under the Pharmacy Act. In the alternative, all such qualified persons should be deemed to be registered Pharmacists for all licences issued under Chapter VI of the Drugs Rules—Sale of Drugs.

2. **Elimination of licences in Forms 20-A and 21-A.**—Issued to grocery and oilman stores merchants and petty shopkeepers. Suggestion to issue special certificates to such people on payment of a small fee to sell specific household remedies according to the list to be prepared.

Previous action.—Shri Borkar, Drugs Controller (India) said at the VIth Drugs Conference that the question of allowing the sale of some selected household remedies *without insisting on a licence* under the Drugs Rules in areas *having a population of 1000* or less was under consideration.

Subsequently, amendments were issued to rule 59 sub-rules 2 & 3, and according to these the licence fee for an application for licence in Form 20-A or 21-A in areas

having a population of 5,000 or less has been reduced to Rs. Five in place of Rs. 20-00 under the original rules.

Suggestions.—Nothing is known about the list of selected household remedies referred to in the Drugs Controller's statement.

Conditions of this licence for smaller towns having a population of 5,000 or less should be specifically stated and the list of selected remedies should also be published.

Not only the issue of licences in Forms 20-A and 21-A in towns having a population of over 5,000 to general merchants and petty shop-keepers where there are licensed Chemists should be discontinued but renewals of such licences should as far as possible be also discouraged and stopped altogether finally.

A reference to Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee's Report (Chapter VII Distribution) is invited wherein it is clearly stated :—

"Drugs and Medicines should not be allowed to be sold in Grocers' shops, Restaurants and by General Merchants in cities and large towns."

The issue of these licences to shop-keepers and other General merchants adversely affects the Chemists' retail trade. These licencees need not maintain any records as per Drugs Rules. They need not have any storage facilities and need not also observe the many obligations enumerated under the Drugs Rules and yet can sell a good many retail items of drugs. This is really a serious handicap to the full fledged Chemist and must be removed.

3. **Loan Licences under Rule 69 (A).**—Applicants for loan licences in one State should have the option to get specified items of drugs manufactured by any competent pharmaceutical industry in any other State of the Indian Union. It should not also be insisted that the 'Loan Licensee' should have his own office in the State of manufacture also.

Previous action.—It was stated at the Sixth Drugs Conference that the entire question of 'Loan Licences' was being examined by a Committee appointed by the Drugs Consultative Committee and that the suggestion of the Association would be given due consideration by the said Committee.

Suggestions.—It is not known whether the said Committee had concluded its deliberation and if the suggestion of the Association was considered and if in the affirmative with what result.

No amendment to rule 69 (A) appears to have been notified so far.

This matter may be discussed and necessary steps taken to give effect to the suggestion of the Association.

4. **Period of currency of the Drugs Licences.**—It is suggested that, with a view to bring about uniformity and also to avoid failures by the licencees to apply for renewal in time before the expiry date, the period of currency of all Drugs Licences may be fixed as 'two calendar years' or 'two fiscal years'—instead of the present system of issuing the licences for a period of two years from the date of issue of each licence.

Licences under the Poisons Act are issued every calender year (January to December). Spirit licences, Rectified Spirit, Chloral Hydrate licences etc. are issued every financial year (April to March).

Even Radio Licences are issued for every calendar year. It is not known why a similar procedure cannot be followed in respect of Drugs Licences too?

It is considered that this system if adopted would eliminate a good number of renewal applications being sent after the date of expiry and the unnecessary payment of the penalty by the licencees concerned. Again, this procedure would help the issue of licences quickly and avoid a good deal of delay which is now being experienced in renewals of licences.

5. **Membership in a recognised Association of Chemists and Druggists** may be included as a condition for the issue of any Drugs licence. This will go a long way in ensuring uniformity in Consumers' prices and preventing under-selling. This should at least be a recommendatory or subsidiary condition for the issue of a Drugs licence.

6. **Implementation of the recommendations of Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee.**—A system of fair trade prices should be established allowing fair margins to wholesalers and retailers. Consumers' prices should be published. Fixation of fair trade prices and prevention of under selling have been emphasised.

Necessary steps should be taken for the implementation of the recommendations of the Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee :

The Report of the Committee says :—"We wish to sound a note of caution, however, that unless these recommendations are implemented *in toto*, the desired results may not be achieved. Sometimes, the partial implementation of recommendations may even lead to difficulties. For instance, an enhancement in the licence fees of traders without ensuring them a minimum return by fixing fair trade prices and preventing under selling may only worsen the position."

(17th November, 1961).

—★—

DRUGS

Office of Issue :—The Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals, New Delhi—1.

Tender No :—P/SM6/26383—M/II.

Due by 1 p.m. on the 20th December 1961.

Sealed tenders are invited by the purchaser named in the Schedule to invitation of tender for—

Item No.	Description of Stores		Quantity.
1	Fuze Safety No. 11, Mark 2	...	133,000 Fms.

Note :—Intending tenderers may obtain a copy of the letter of invitation to tender and the tender form complete with schedule from the Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals, New Delhi and its Regional offices at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras on payment of Rs. 10.

I. T. J. November 18, 1961.

Legislation

Ministry of Health

New Delhi, the 13th October, 1961.

S O. 2538—The following draft of certain rules further to amend the Drugs Rules, 1945, which the Central Government proposes to make, after consultation with the Drugs Technical Advisory Board, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 12 and 33 of the Drugs Act, 1940 (23 of 1940) is published as required by the said sections for the information of persons likely to be affected thereby, and notice is hereby given that the said draft will be taken into consideration on or after the 31st December, 1961.

Any objection or suggestion which may be received from any person with respect to the said draft before the date so specified will be considered by the Central Government.

Draft Rules

1. These rules may be called the Drugs (Amendment) Rules 1961.

2. In the Drugs Rules, 1945—

(1) the proviso to sub-rule (2) of rule 64 shall be omitted.

(2) after part VIII, the following part shall be inserted, namely :—

" Part VIII A—Refusal to grant or renew licences.

93. *Refusal to grant or renew licences in certain cases* : (1) Where a licence has been suspended or cancelled under rule 66, rule 85 or rule 93 and the order of suspension or cancellation has not been reversed in appeal the licensing authority may refuse to grant any licence under these rules either to the holder thereof or to any firm, if such holder is a partner in that firm, or to any company or other body-corporate or any association of persons (whether incorporated or not) if he is a director, manager, secretary or agent of, or holds any other office in, or is in any other way concerned with the management of, such company or other body-corporate or association.

(2) Where any person has been convicted of an offence under the Act or these rules, the licensing authority may refuse to grant a licence to such person or to any firm in which such person is a partner or to any company or other body-corporate or an association of persons (whether incorporated or not) in which such person is a director, manager, secretary, agent or in which he holds any other office or is in any other way concerned with the management thereof.

(3) Where a licence has been suspended or cancelled under rule 66, rule 85 or rule 93 and the order of suspension or cancellation has not been reversed in appeal, or where the holder thereof has been convicted of any offence under the Act or these rules, the licensing authority may refuse to renew such licence.

(4) Any person who is dissatisfied with an order passed by the licensing authority under sub-rule (1) sub-rule (2) or sub-rule (3) may within a period of one month from the date of communication of such order to him appeal to the State Government concerned whose decision thereon shall be final."—No. F. 1-13/61-D.

The Gazette of India : October 28, 1961.

Amendments to Madras Manufactured Drugs Rules

(*G. O. Ms. No. 3559, Home, 12th Oct. 1961*)

S. R. O. No. A-1058 of 1961.

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 8 and section 35 of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930 (Central Act II of 1930) the Governor of Madras hereby makes the following amendments to the Madras Manufactured Drugs Rules, 1932, published with Revenue Department Notification No. 203, dated the 29th April 1932, at pages 798 to 806 of Part I of the Fort St. George Gazette, dated the 3rd May 1932, as subsequently amended, the same having been previously published as required by sub-section (1) of section 36 of the said Act :—

Amendments

In the said rules—

(1) in the preamble, for the expression "sub-section (2) of section 8", the expression "sub-section (2) of section 8 and section 35" shall be substituted ;

(2) the Note under sub-rule (3) of rule 36 shall be omitted ;

(3) after rule 36, the following rules, and heading shall be inserted, namely :—

"36-A. (1) Manufactured drugs other than prepared opium, and all other articles confiscated under the Act in connection with any offence against these rules shall be forwarded to the Commissioner. The Commissioner shall cause all such manufactured drugs to be examined by the Chemical Examiner, or by such other officer as the Commissioner may direct. All such manufactured drugs found fit for use shall be transferred to the Collector for disposal in the manner prescribed in sub-rule (1) of rule 36, or disposed of in such manner as the Commissioner may think fit. The sale proceeds of such manufactured drugs shall be credited to Government. If such manufactured drugs cannot be sold, or are found to be unfit for use, they shall be destroyed.

(2) All other articles confiscated under the Act in connection with any offence against these rules shall be disposed of in such manner as the Commissioner may think fit."

"36-B. X-A. Rewards to Officers, informers and other persons :—When any Magistrate convicts an offender under section 14 of the Act, or when any Magistrate, or other authorized officer orders the confiscation of manufactured drugs other than prepared opium under section 34 of the Act in connection with any offence against these rules, the Inspector-General of Police may grant a reward not exceeding the value of the manufactured drugs other than prepared opium, and other articles confiscated in the case, plus the amount of any fine imposed in such proportion as he may think fit, to any officer, or officers, or informer, or informers, or other person or persons who have contributed to the seizure, or the conviction of the offender. If in any case the reward which may be granted under this rule is inadequate, or if no fine is imposed or confiscation ordered, or if the fine, or forfeiture is not realized the Inspector-General of Police may grant such reasonable rewards as he may deem fair. The Inspector-General of Police may delegate his power under this rule to any subordinate officer."

(4) in condition XVIII of Form M-1 and in condition XIX of form M-2, the words "or otherwise" shall be added at the end.

P. T. SREEKUMARA PANIKKER,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Fort St. George Gazette : Nov. 1, 1961.

·Department of Education and Public Health

(Public Health)

Certain officers authorized with certain powers under Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements)

ACT

Cancellation of Notification

(G.O. Ms. No. 2496, Health, 31st Oct. 1961)

II-2 No. 742 of 1961.

Notification I of the late Health, Education and Local Administration Department Notification S. R. O. No. B-1086 of 1957, published at page 828 of Part I-A of the Fort St. George Gazette, dated the 27th November 1957, is hereby cancelled.

Certain officers authorized to exercise powers under Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Rules.

(G. O. Ms. No. 2496, Health, 31st Oct. 1961)

II-2 No. 743 of 1961.

Under rule 4 of the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Rules, 1955, as subsequently amended, the Governor of Madras hereby authorizes the following officers to exercise the powers conferred by the said rule 4 :—

(*i*) The Drugs Controller, Madras.

(*ii*) The Assistant State Drugs Controller, Madras.

(*iii*) All Drugs Inspectors appointed under section 21 of the Drugs Act, 1940 (Central Act XXIII of 1940), within their respective jurisdiction.

(*iv*) All Police Officers not below the rank of a Sub-Inspector or a Station-House Officer within their respective jurisdiction.

S. SUBRAHMANYAN,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

Fort St. George Gazette: Nov. 15, 1961.

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BARIUM SALTS

It is understood that a plant for the production of "Barium Chemicals" the first of its kind in India will be set up soon near Tirupathi in the private sector with British collaboration. It is expected that production will start in about a year and the initial output is estimated at 6000 tons of Barium Salts.

Market Possibilities

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Scope for Exporting Natural Gums for Use in Chewing Gum Industry

Information has been received from the Consulate General of India, New York, that a manufacturer of chewing gums in the U.S.A., is looking for a source of supply in India of natural gums as mentioned below, suitable for use in the chewing gum industry :—

JELUTONG ... derived from the plant Dyera Coss-tulata Hook. f. of the family apocynaceae.

GUTTA HONKONG ... derived from the plants Palaquium leiocarpum and P. sideroxylon glabrescence.

GUTTA KATIAU ... Indian species are Palaquium ellipticum Engl. and P. bourdilloni Brandis.

Firms or individuals in India who are in a position to undertake the supply of these gums to the U.S.A., may approach the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, 1, Council House Street, Calcutta-1, for name and address of the American firm, mentioning their Bank references and furnishing information on area of production in India and quantity available for export.

Indian Trade Journal, November, 11, 1961.

REPORT ON THE SURVEY OF MARKET FOR CHEMICALS AND PHARMACEUTICALS IN BURMA

A report on the survey of market in Burma for chemicals and pharmaceuticals has been received from the First Secretary (Commercial), Embassy of India, Rangoon. The details of the report will be published by the Director, Commercial Publicity, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi, in the Market Survey Series. The salient features of the report are given below :—

Chemicals and pharmaceuticals are imported into Burma mainly from the United Kingdom, the United States of America, West Germany and the Netherlands. There is, however, a Burma Government concern, "Burma Pharmaceutical Works Ltd.," which imports medicines in bulk and after simple processing and packing, places them in the market for sale to the general public. The Burma Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., also manufacture a few medicines which are protected items and there is complete ban on their imports.

All pharmaceutical agents and distributors have at present to place indents with the Rangoon Drug House Ltd., which is the sole importing agency for the entire pharmaceutical trade in Burma. After scrutiny the quantities approved are permitted for import.

For the introduction of a new medicine the manufacturers are required to submit 200 packs for trial to the Rangoon Drug House Ltd. To determine the standard and

quality of a medicine, this organisation has appointed a Drug Advisory Council consisting of 15 doctors. The new medicines are allowed to be imported only on approval by the Advisory Council.

Indian manufacturers would be well-advised to consider initial expenditure on promotional advertising in the Medical Journal of Burma, prominent dailies and magazines. The quotations should be on a f.o.b. ex-Calcutta basis or preferably on c.i.f., Rangoon basis. They should also appoint agents and distributors in Rangoon for their products to be familiarised through hospital authorities, prominent doctors and drug houses, etc. In that market, Indian pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical chemicals may have to face keen competition with products of well-established British, European and American manufacturers of world-wide reputation; as such, the products offered by India are required to be of the highest quality.

For a list of Importers of pharmaceuticals and chemicals in Burma interested exporters in India may approach the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, 1, Council House Street, Calcutta, mentioning their own Bank and other trade references.

Trade Enquiries :—

INDIAN :—

Raw Catguts

(TE/61/146) A firm in Bombay desires to be put in touch with suppliers in India of Raw Catguts.

Indian Trade Journal, November 11, 1961.

REGIONAL DIRECTORATE, CALCUTTA

Phenol Formaldehyde Moulding Powder

Office of Issue :—The Directorate of Supplies and Disposals, 6, Esplanade East, Calcutta.

Tender No. CAL/PM-IC/777-M.

Due date and time—15th December 1961 at 1 p.m.

Sealed tenders are invited for—

Item No.	Description of Stores	Specification No.	Quantity.
1.	Phenol Formaldehyde Moulding Powder black type GX ...	BSS-771/1959	12,705 kg.
2.	Ditto Red type GX ...	BSS-771/1959	275 kg.

Price per Tender Set Rs. 6.

Indian Trade Journal, November 18, 1961.

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QUALITY OF DRUGS

The Minister for Industries Mr. Manubhai Shah said in the Lok Sabha recently that arrangements for Quality Control and Research work will be made in all public sector undertakings including the Surgical Factory to be set up at Madras.

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CUSTOMS, TARIFF AND CENTRAL EXCISE

(INDIA)

Patent or Proprietary Medicines—Maintenance of R. G.—I or Modified R. G—1 Rule 53 of the Central Excise Rules Relaxation of

The following decision, dated the 16th October, 1961, of the Central Board of Revenue, is published for general information.

In view of the special circumstances of the Drugs Industry, the Board have decided that in relaxation of rule 53 of the Central Excise Rules, the manufacturers of Patent or Proprietary Medicines need not be required to make entries in the account for individual items, on such dates when there is no manufacture, deposit in the store-room, or removal of the particular item of Patent or Proprietary Medicines. Entries need be made only on the days when there is some manufacture, clearance or removal to the store-room.

Indian Trade Journal, Nov. 18, 1961.